WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A speech communication apparatus including a speech communication microphone, a speaker and a communication unit for amplifying an output signal from said speech communication microphone, said speech communication microphone and said speaker being fixedly disposed in the vicinity of a mouth and an ear of an individual, respectively, said communication unit comprising:

amplifying means for amplifying an input signal and outputting said input signal so amplified; and

control means for controlling the gain of said amplifying means in response to an excessive input signal, wherein said control means controls the gain of said amplifying means such that a reproduced sound of an excessive input signal is reduced to a predetermined level only for a predetermined period of time when said excessive input signal is detected.

2. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means controls the gain of said amplifying means by detecting an input signal corresponding to sneeze or cough.

3. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 1, and further including operation means for varying said predetermined period of time.

4. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 2, and further including operation means for varying said predetermined period of time.

5. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined period of time is set at a range from 0.7 to 5 seconds both inclusive.

6. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said predetermined period of time is set at a range from 0.7 to 5 seconds both inclusive.

7. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said predetermined period of time is set at a range from 0.7 to 5 seconds both inclusive.

8. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said predetermined period of time is set at a range from 0.7 to 5 seconds both inclusive.

9. A speech communication apparatus including a speech communication microphone, a speaker and a communication unit for amplifying an output signal from said speech communication microphone, said speech communication microphone and said speaker are fixedly disposed in the vicinity of a mouth and an ear of an individual, respectively, communication unit comprising:

amplifying means for amplifying an input signal and outputting said input signal so amplified; and

control means for controlling the gain of said amplifying means in response to an input signal which rises sharply, wherein said control means controls the gain of said amplifying means such that a reproduced sound of an input signal which rises sharply is reduced to a predetermined level for a predetermined period of time when said excessive input signal is detected.

10. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said control means controls the gain of said amplifying means by detecting an input signal corresponding to sneeze or cough.

11. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 9, and further including operation means for varying said predetermined period of time.

12. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 10, and further including operation means for varying said predetermined period of time.

13. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said predetermined period of time is set at a range from 0.7 to 5 seconds both inclusive.

14. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said predetermined period of time is set at a range from 0.7 to 5 seconds both inclusive.

15. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said predetermined period of time is set at a range from 0.7 to 5 seconds both inclusive.

16. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said predetermined period of time is set at a range from 0.7 to 5 seconds both inclusive.

17. A speech communication apparatus including a speech communication microphone, a speaker and a communication unit for amplifying an output signal from said speech communication microphone, said speech

communication microphone and said speaker are fixedly disposed in the vicinity of a mouth and an ear of an individual, respectively, said communication unit comprising:

an amplifier to amplifying an input signal and outputting said input signal so amplified; and

a controller to control the gain of said amplifier in response to at least one of an input signal which rises sharply and an excessive input signal, wherein said controller controls the gain of said amplifier such that at least one of a reproduced sound of an input signal which rises sharply is reduced to a predetermined level for a predetermined period of time when said excessive input signal is detected and a reproduced sound of an excessive input signal is reduced to a predetermined level only for a predetermined period of time when said excessive input signal is detected.

18. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said control means controls the gain of said amplifying means by detecting an input signal corresponding to sneeze or cough.

19. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 17, and further including operation means for varying said predetermined period of time.

20. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 18, and further including operation means for varying said predetermined period of time.

21. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said predetermined period of time is set at a range from 0.7 to 5 seconds both inclusive.

22. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said predetermined period of time is set at a range from 0.7 to 5 seconds both inclusive.

23. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said predetermined period of time is set at a range from 0.7 to 5 seconds both inclusive.

24. The speech communication apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said predetermined period of time is set at a range from 0.7 to 5 seconds both inclusive.